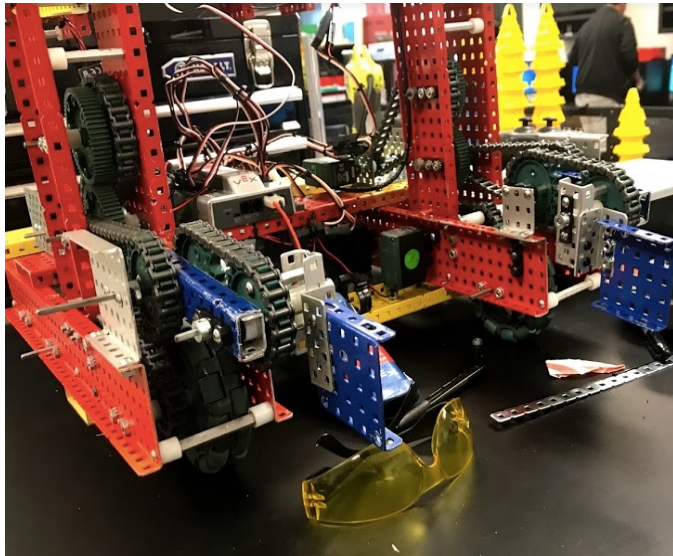


Girl Power Online Challenge Essay

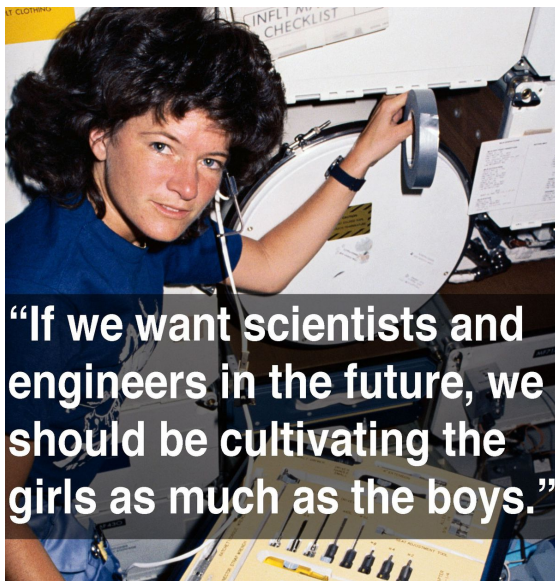
Girl powered. Women, in this constantly changing society and culture, have contributed to incredible innovations. The phrase “Girl Powered” causes thoughts to enter the mindset in which women innovate. My team, 7536B, shares our jobs between the three female team members, including myself. We share our responsibilities equally, or attempt to from time to time. We teach all of the team members everything so that if I or someone else is not here, we can all explain the concepts and mechanisms.

Diversity and perspective can alter our different iterations. If one person thinks that it would not work whilst another thinks it would, the opinions can cause many disagreements, yet our team does not have this conflict. If one person thinks otherwise, then we would sit down and discuss why he or she does not think it would work. Diversity of the multiple perspectives has caused us to change the iterations we have made.



This is my first year on this team doing VRC, but I have been on many other teams before. Last year, I was on a team with 4 other members, and I was the only female. Things did work out well among us yet we had difficulty getting along. Despite that, I did have a lot of input on the robot as well on the VEX IQ team and the VRC team.

The left portrays our first iteration. While we were building a standard drive train, we realized that the drive kept getting caught on the poles of the mobile goal scoring zones.

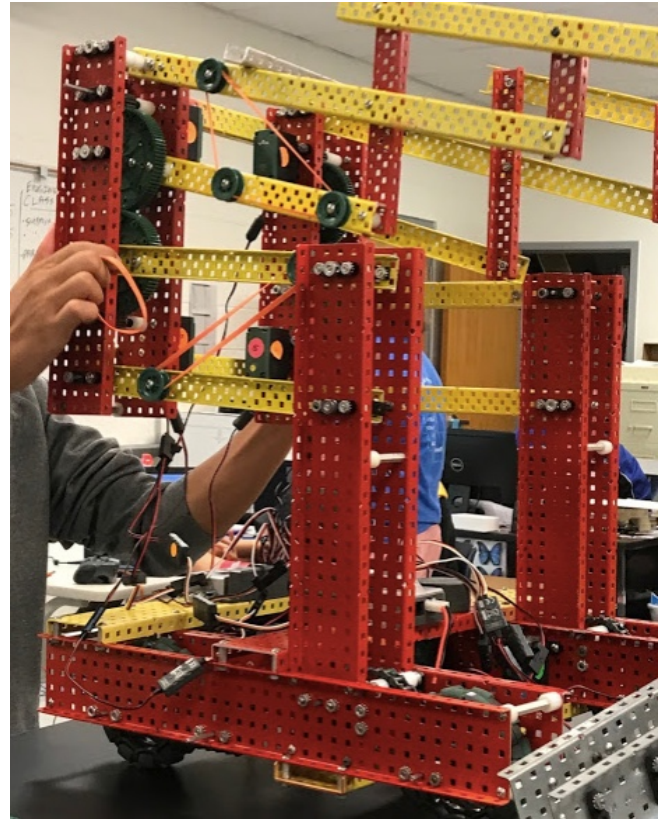


“If we want scientists and engineers in the future, we should be cultivating the girls as much as the boys.”

Confidence is what most women lack when it comes to entering a field that was predominately males. In our organization, opportunity is given to all those who yearn to learn and are able to teach others along the way. The girls in our teams accomplish multiple tasks, from notebook to building, we tend to learn it all. There are many role models imbedded in history, but are not really discussed much. As a child, I was always fascinated by Sally Ride. She was the first American woman in space, who was a physicist and astronaut. When I was younger, I was always intrigued by space and technology. One of her quotes that I admire is “If we want scientists and engineers in the future, we should be cultivating

the girls as much as the boys.” Personally, I do not wish for women to overcome men: all we need them is to be equal in a sense.

Risks is something you have to take among all of these things as well. As I have stated these, I started doing robotics in 6th grade, so this would technically be my 4th year. I did VEX IQ and VRC; sometimes I switch back and forth. Last year, I was on the middle school team, but I helped out in the high school robotics as well. The teams have opened their arms to help me along the way to learn how and what to do in many different situations. They have also taught me to socialize and not be afraid. Last year, we had about nine girls in the engineering class at the high school, in which 6 of them were in competition robotics. Since I have become a freshman, the numbers from my perspective have doubled.



Double reverse 4-6 bar on the VEX VRC high school team